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PATENT PC9674BJTJ

7/B Watt

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: William J. Curatolo, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/770,562

: Examiner: B. Fubara
: Art Unit: 1615

Bet
4-15-02

FILED: January 26, 2001

FOR: Solid Pharmaceutical Dispersions
With Enhanced Bioavailability

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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MAR 28 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Response Under Rule 111

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 11, 2001, the term for response having been extended three (3) months by including the appropriate fee and petition herewith.

In response to the Office Action, please make the following changes in the application:

In the claims:

1. (Once Amended) A composition comprising a spray dried solid dispersion, which dispersion comprises a sparingly water-soluble drug and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose acetate succinate (HPMCAS), said dispersion providing a maximum concentration of said drug in a use environment that is higher by a factor of at least 1.5 relative to a control composition comprising an equivalent quantity of undispersed drug.

2. (Once Amended) A composition as defined in claim 1, wherein said drug has a dose to aqueous solubility ratio greater than 100.

3. (Once Amended) A composition as defined in claim 1, wherein said use environment is model fasted duodenal (MFD) solution.

7. (Once Amended) A composition of matter comprising a spray-dried solid dispersion, which dispersion comprises a sparingly soluble drug and HPMCAS, said dispersion exhibiting a maximum supersaturated concentration in MFD solution which is higher by a factor of at least 1.5 relative to the equilibrium concentration exhibited by a control composition comprising an equivalent quantity of undispersed drug.

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